

Message Text

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ACTION OES-09

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 INR-10 EUR-12 SS-15 OIC-02
CIAE-00 EB-08 EA-12 ICA-20 DODE-00 IO-14 NSC-05
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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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FROM USDEL ANTARCTIC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: XV, EFIS, TGEN, AR

SUBJECT: SECOND SPECIAL CONSULTATIVE MEETING ON ANTARCTIC
MARINE LIVING RESOURCES: U.S. OPENING STATEMENT

THERE FOLLOWS TEXT OF STATEMENT MADE BY U.S. REPRESENTATIVE AT OPENING OF THE BUENOS AIRES SPECIAL CONSULTATIVE MEETING:

"--MR. CHAIRMAN, MY CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR ELECTION TO PRESIDE OVER THESE IMPORTANT DELIBERATIONS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING CLOSELY WITH YOU IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

--ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION, LET ME ALSO CONVEY OUR APPRECIATION FOR THE INVITATION EXTENDED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF ARGENTINA TO SERVE AS HOST FOR THIS RESUMED SESSION OF THE SPECIAL CONSULTATIVE MEETING ON ANTARCTIC MARINE LIVING RESOURCES.

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--WE ARE PLEASED TO BE HERE IN ARGENTINA, A COUNTRY WHOSE DISTINGUISHED ANTARCTIC HISTORY HIS EXCELLENCY THE FOREIGN MINISTER HAS JUST RECALLED FOR US, AND TO BE IN BUENOS AIRES, THE CHAMPIONSHIP CITY WHOSE CORDIAL HOSPITALITY IS SO WELL KNOWN.

--MR. CHAIRMAN, AT LAST YEAR'S NINTH CONSULTATIVE MEETING

IN LONDON, THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ANTARCTIC TREATY CONSULTATIVE PARTIES MADE A UNIQUE AND UNUSUAL COMMITMENT. THEY CALLED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A REGIME TO CONSERVE ANTARCTIC MARINE LIVING RESOURCES AND SET A SPECIFIC TARGET DATE FOR THE COMPLETION OF THAT TASK OF NOT LATER THAN THE END OF 1978.

--THE COMMITMENT EXPRESSED IN RECOMMENDATION IX-2 TESTIFIED TO WHAT I BELIEVE WAS AND REMAINS A SHARED PERCEPTION AMONG US. THAT PERCEPTION HAS TWO PARTS. THE FIRST IS THAT THERE IS A CLEAR AND IMMEDIATE NEED TO ESTABLISH A SYSTEM TO ENSURE THE CONSERVATION, INCLUDING RATIONAL UTILIZATION, OF THE MARINE LIVING RESOURCES FOUND IN ANTARCTIC WATERS, AND TO DO SO NOW BEFORE LARGE-SCALE ACTIVITIES HAVE BEGUN. THE SECOND IS THAT THE ANTARCTIC TREATY, AND SPECIFICALLY THE ANTARCTIC TREATY CONSULTATIVE SYSTEM, PROVIDES BOTH THE BASIS AND THE MEANS FOR TAKING THE INITIATIVE TO CREATE THE REGIME WE ALL AGREE TO BE NECESSARY.

--MY DELEGATION REAFFIRMS ITS ACCEPTANCE OF THIS PERCEPTION. WE BELIEVE THAT ITS VALIDITY HAS BEEN CORROBORATED BOTH BY THE PROGRESS WE MADE IN CANBERRA EARLIER THIS YEAR AND BY THE BROADER INTEREST IN ANTARCTIC MARINE LIVING RESOURCES WHICH HAS EMERGED IN INTERNATIONAL BODIES SINCE THE NINTH CONSULTATIVE. I WOULD STRESS THIS UNCLASSIFIED

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LATTER POINT, BECAUSE I THINK THAT INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION -- A CONDITIONAL RECOGNITION -- OF OUR EFFORTS HAS DEVELOPED. IF WE AS CONSULTATIVE PARTIES LIVE UP TO OUR RESPONSIBILITIES AND CONSTRUCT A REGIME WHICH IS BOTH EFFECTIVE AND OPEN TO OTHERS WITH LEGITIMATE INTERESTS, THEN I BELIEVE OUR WORK WILL ACHIEVE FULL INTERNATIONAL ACCEPTANCE. IF WE FAIL TO MEET THESE CRITERIA OR IF WE DELAY, THE INITIATIVE COULD WELL SHIFT ELSEWHERE.

--MY GOVERNMENT HAS CAREFULLY EXAMINED THE CHAIRMAN'S DRAFT CONVENTION WHICH EMERGED FROM CANBERRA. WE NOTE THAT IMPORTANT ISSUES REMAIN IN ITS TEXT. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THAT THE TEXT REFLECTS THE REAL PROGRESS WHICH WE MADE IN CANBERRA AND THAT IT CONTAINS THE OUTLINE AND MUCH OF THE SUBSTANCE OF AN ACCEPTABLE CONVENTION. IN OUR VIEW, THE CHAIRMAN'S DRAFT SHOULD CONSTITUTE BOTH THE BASIS AND THE FRAMEWORK FOR OUR NEGOTIATIONS HERE. WE SEE THE MEETING'S WORK AS AIMED AT NARROWING OUTSTANDING DIFFERENCES IN THE CHAIRMAN'S DRAFT.

--MR. CHAIRMAN, THE TASK BEFORE US WILL NOT BE EASY.

TIME IS SHORT. WE HAVE NOT ONLY TO COMPLETE WORK ON A
DRAFT BUT TO DECIDE ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE DECISIVE MEETING
WHICH IS TO FOLLOW. THERE IS ALSO THE QUESTION
OF INTERIM MEASURES TO PROVIDE FOR FULFILLMENT OF OUR
OBJECTIVES IN THE PERIOD BETWEEN CONCLUSION OF A CON-
VENTION AND ITS ENTRY INTO FORCE.

--IF ALL BRING TO THESE DELIBERATIONS THE SPIRIT OF
FRIENDSHIP AND MUTUAL ACCOMMODATION THAT HAS CHARACTERIZED
THIS BODY SINCE ITS INCEPTION AND HAS BEEN DEMONSTRATED
REPEATEDLY IN ANTARCTICA, WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT, UNDER
YOUR LEADERSHIP, WE CAN COMPLETE ALL ITEMS ON OUR
AGENDA. MY DELEGATION, MR. CHAIRMAN, WILL SPARE NO
EFFORT TO SEE OUR DELIBERATIONS CROWNED WITH SUCCESS."
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FOLLOWS TEXT OF STATEMENT MADE BY U.S. REPRE
TAGS: EFIS, TGEN, XV, AR, US
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